

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 L-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, PARM, UK, US

SUBJECT: EXPRESS ARTICLE ON UK NUCLEAR TEST IN U.S.

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT CHAPMAN PINCHER ARTICLE IN MAY 24 EXPRESS HEADLINED, "HAROLD'S H-BOMB BLAST FOR LABOUR":

2. BEGIN TEXT. "ANOTHER NUCLEAR TEST EXPLOSION IS TO BE AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING ITS DECISION NOT ONLY TO CONTINUE WITH THE POLARIS SUBMARINE DETERRENT BUT TO IMPROVE THE H-BOMB WARHEADS.

3. "THE LAST BRITISH TEST -- IN 1965 -- WAS ALSO AUTHORIZED BY MR. HAROLD WILSON AND HE KEPT IT SECRET UNTIL I DISCLOSED IT.

4. "THE EXPLOSION WILL BE UNDERGROUND IN AMERICA AND THERE WILL BE NO RADIOACTIVE FALL-OUT. NEVERTHELESS IT POSES A PARTY POLITICAL PROBLEM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF FAR GREATER POTENTIAL DANGER THAN ARMS SALES TO CHILE FOR NOW THERE ARE SO MANY ANTI-NUCLEAR LEFT-WINGERS IN

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THE GOVERNMENT.

5. "MR. MICHAEL FOOT, WHO LED THE ALDERMASTON MARCHERS FOR YEARS AND THUNDERED AGAINST NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE IS A SENIOR MEMBER OF THE CABINET. HOW CAN HE GO ALONG WITH A DECISION TO SPEND MANY MILLIONS ON IMPROVING POLARIS WARHEADS, ESPECIALLY WHEN THERE IS A DRIVE TO CUT DEFENCE SPENDING?

6. "AND WHAT ABOUT SUCH NOTABLE LEFT-WINGERS AS MRS. JUDITH HART, MINISTER OF OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT, MR. REG FREESON, THE HOUSING MINISTER AND JUNIOR MINISTERS LIKE MR. ERIC HEFFER, MR. STANLEY ORME AND MISS JOAN LESTOR? WILL THEY RESIGN?

7. "BE SURE THEY WILL NOT. I DISCLOSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS GOING ON WITH POLARIS A MONTH AGO BUT EVEN THE MOST PACIFIST BACK-BENCHERS WITH NO OFFICE TO LOSE HAVE NOT GIVEN TONGUE. AS SHERLOCK HOLMES WOULD ASK WHY HAVEN'T THE SELF-APPOINTED WATCH-DOGS BARKED?"

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